

In the claims:

1. (Original) An aerosolization system comprising:
an aerosolization device comprising a chamber adapted to receive a
receptacle; and
a receptacle containing a pharmaceutical formulation, the receptacle
comprising a wall having a weakened portion that opens when a force is applied,
whereby an opening into the receptacle may be created at the weakened
portion before, during, or after insertion of the receptacle into the chamber by applying a force to
the receptacle.
2. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 1 wherein the
weakened portion comprises a region of the wall altered so as to fracture at a force less than
would be necessary without the alteration.
3. (Original) A system according to claim 1 wherein the weakened portion
comprises a scored region and/or a portion of the wall having a reduced thickness.
4. (Original) A system according to claim 1 wherein the aerosolization
device comprises a force applying member to apply a force to the weakened portion to create the
opening in the receptacle.
5. (Original) A system according to claim 4 wherein the force applying
member comprises a moveable portion of the chamber.
6. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 5 wherein the movable portion
is a flexible wall.
7. (Original) A system according to claim 4 wherein the force applying
member comprises an opening mechanism slidably moveable within the chamber.
8. (Original) A system according to claim 7 wherein the opening mechanism
comprises a opening member having a blunt tip.

9. (Original) A system according to claim 1 wherein the receptacle comprises a capsule.

10. (Original) A system according to claim 9 wherein the capsule comprises a wall comprising one or more of gelatin, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, polyethyleneglycol-compounded hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, and agar.

11. (Original) A system according to claim 1 wherein the receptacle contains a powder pharmaceutical formulation.

12. (Original) A system according to claim 11 wherein the powder pharmaceutical formulation comprises particles having a mass median diameter less than 10 μm .

13. (Original) A system according to claim 11 wherein the powder pharmaceutical formulation has a moisture content below 5% by weight.

14. (Original) A method of aerosolizing a pharmaceutical formulation, the method comprising:

providing an aerosolization device comprising a chamber;
providing a receptacle containing a pharmaceutical formulation, the receptacle comprising a wall having a weakened portion that opens when a force is applied;
applying a force to the receptacle to create an opening at the weakened portion;

before, during, or after applying the force to the receptacle, inserting the receptacle into the chamber; and

aerosolizing the pharmaceutical formulation in the chamber.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein the force is applied by a blunt member.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein the force is applied after the receptacle is inserted into the chamber.

17. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 16 wherein the force is applied by moving a wall of the chamber.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 16 wherein the force is applied by sliding a member within the chamber.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein the applied force causes the weakened portion to break at a scored region.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein the applied force causes the weakened portion to break at a region of reduced wall thickness.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 14 comprising aerosolizing the pharmaceutical formulation by dispersing the pharmaceutical formulation in an air or gas stream.

22. (Original) A method according to claim 21 wherein the air or gas stream is generated by a users inhalation.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 21 wherein the air or gas stream is from a source of pressurized gas.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein the receptacle comprises a capsule.

25. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein the receptacle contains a powder pharmaceutical formulation.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 25 wherein the powder pharmaceutical formulation comprises particles having a mass median diameter less than 10 μm .

27. (Currently amended) A receptacle for use in an aerosolization device comprising a chamber adapted to receive the receptacle, the receptacle comprising:

a wall having a weakened portion that opens when a force is applied; and
an aerosolizable a-pharmaceutical formulation within the wall,

whereby an opening may be created at the weakened portion before, during, or after insertion of the receptacle into the chamber by applying a force to the receptacle.

28. (Original) A receptacle according to claim 27 wherein the weakened portion comprises a region of the wall altered so as to fracture at a force less than would be necessary without the alteration.

29. (Original) A receptacle according to claim 27 wherein the weakened portion comprises a scored region and/or a portion of the wall having a reduced thickness.

30. (Original) A receptacle according to claim 27 wherein the weakened portion is opened when a blunt force is applied.

31. (Original) A receptacle according to claim 27 wherein the receptacle is a capsule.

32. (Original) A receptacle according to claim 31 wherein the capsule comprises a wall comprising one or more of gelatin, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, polyethyleneglycol-compounded hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, and agar.

33. (Original) A receptacle according to claim 27 wherein the receptacle contains a powder pharmaceutical formulation.

34. (Original) A receptacle according to claim 33 wherein the powder pharmaceutical formulation comprises particles having a mass median diameter less than 10 μm .

35. (Original) A receptacle according to claim 33 wherein the powder pharmaceutical formulation has a moisture content below 5% by weight.

36. (New) A system according to claim 1 wherein the receptacle is moveable within the chamber to aerosolize the pharmaceutical formulation.

37. (New) A method according to claim 14 wherein the receptacle is moveable within the chamber to aerosolize the pharmaceutical formulation.